

# NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Route 72 East Road Intersection Improvements Stafford Township, Ocean County

### Public Information Center

**Monday, July 6, 2015 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm**

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost, will hold a **Public Information Center** to inform local residents and businesses of the proposed **Route 72 East Road Intersection Improvements in Stafford Township, Ocean County**. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

#### The Meeting

**The Public Information Center will be held at the Stafford Township Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 260 Bay Avenue, Manahawkin on Monday, July 6, 2015 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.** Please plan to attend at a time that is convenient for you. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the proposed project, ask questions and discuss any concerns with NJDOT staff and representatives.

#### Background

This project has been initiated to improve traffic operation, enhance roadway safety, and implement the Stafford Township Access Management Plan (AMP). Improvements along Route 72 eastbound include eliminating access to nine exclusive driveways of six commercial properties and replacing them with three shared driveways, and reconfiguring the surrounding roadway network per the AMP.

The proposed project limits along Route 72 are from just east of the Garden State Parkway at milepost 21.71 to west of Captain Randolph Boulevard at milepost 22.68.

#### Proposed Construction

NJDOT proposes the following:

- Replacing the existing Route 72 westbound to East Road jughandle (signed as "Doc Cramer Boulevard") with a new reverse loop jughandle which connects to a realigned Martin Truex Jr. Boulevard on the south side to Route 72.
- Constructing a new signalized intersection along Route 72 with a newly constructed extension of Doc Cramer Boulevard. The extension will provide a double left turn exit onto Route 72 westbound and a single right turn exit onto Route 72 eastbound.
- The two traffic signals on Route 72 will be synchronized to operate on the same cycle to optimize traffic flow.

- Constructing a 10 foot wide outer shoulder along Route 72 eastbound.
- Conversion of the existing grass median along Route 72 to a Jersey Median Barrier Curb along with 5 foot wide shoulders adjacent to the median barrier.
- Constructing two overhead sign structures along Route 72 westbound to provide advance signing along the exit lane for the Garden State Parkway interchange.
- Constructing a new storm water drainage system through the entire project.

#### Proposed Reforestation Plan

The New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act, enacted by the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly and approved on January 29, 2001, requires any state entity to hold a public forum when one or more acres of deforestation occurs in an area owned or maintained by that entity to present to the public the deforestation and reforestation plans for that project. Opportunity for public comment on the plans will be provided.

#### Environmental Review

The environmental review and analysis was performed in accordance with federal laws and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) guidelines pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, in conformance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, and pursuant to National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The purpose of this analysis was to evaluate the proposed project with respect to the positive and negative social, economic, and environmental impacts. FHWA approved the project as a Categorical Exclusion. Application will be made to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for CAFRA, Freshwater Wetlands, and Stormwater Management approvals.

#### Estimated Project Schedule

Estimated Construction Start: Spring 2017

Estimated Construction Completion: Fall 2017

#### For further information contact:

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